## **Abstract of the Invention**

The present invention provides a method for producing a precursor polymer dispersion for addition to a brine for use in drilling and completion operations comprising providing a precursor brine having a first salt content, and mixing a water-soluble polymer with the precursor brine at a sufficient concentration and under conditions sufficient to produce a precursor polymer dispersion effective at a sufficient concentration in a final brine having a second salt content to improve the rheology and/or fluid loss control properties of the final brine.

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